

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-10 (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A first network entertainment unit, comprising:

a local area network (LAN) interface, through which the first network entertainment unit is configured to communicate with a second network entertainment unit in a venue, wherein the first network entertainment unit and the second network entertainment unit are both located in the venue;

[an interface to] a wide area network (WAN) interface, via which the first network entertainment unit is coupled to a remote central resource, wherein the remote central resource stores entertainment content items available to be retrieved by the first network entertainment unit for performance by the first network entertainment unit[, and];

a user interface, comprising a graphical user interface (GUI) and a user input device, that interacts with a user to allow the user to select one or more entertainment content items;

a local memory that stores a plurality[number] of the entertainment content items and a master list of all of the entertainment content items, including entertainment content items available from a remote central resource;

and

content management logic that, when a selected entertainment content item is not stored

in the local memory of the first network entertainment unit, causes:

- i) requesting over the LAN interface the selected entertainment content item;
- ii)[i)] when the selected entertainment content item is not stored in the second network entertainment unit, requesting over the WAN interface the selected entertainment content item [that is not stored in the local memory from the remote central resource];
- iii)[ii)] receiving the requested entertainment content item via the WAN interface; and
- iv)[iii)] performing the received entertainment content item by the first network entertainment unit[[;]].

12. (Currently Amended) The first network entertainment unit of claim 11, further comprising an infrared (IR) receiver/transmitter for transferring data and commands from the first network entertainment unit and for receiving data and commands in the first network entertainment unit.
13. (Currently Amended) The first network entertainment unit of claim 11, further comprising a payment device which is selected from the group consisting of a coin acceptor; a bill acceptor; and a credit card/smart card reader.
14. (Currently Amended) The first network entertainment unit of claim 11, further comprising an audio unit comprising audio speakers and hardware and software for playing music.

15. (Currently Amended) The first network entertainment unit of claim 11, wherein the GUI comprises:

a music selection GUI configured to receive an indication from the user of a selection of[through which the user may choose] music from the list of entertainment content items stored remotely to be played locally; and a game selection GUI configured to receive an indication from the user of a selection of[through which the user may choose] games from the list of entertainment content items stored remotely to be played locally.

16-53. (Canceled)

54. (Currently Amended) The first network entertainment unit of claim 11, [further comprising:

a local area network (LAN) interface through which the] wherein the first network entertainment unit is configured to[may] communicate through the LAN interface with a plurality of similar network entertainment units in [a] the venue.

55. (Currently Amended) The first network entertainment unit of claim 11, further comprising a local cache capable of storing the requested entertainment content item, wherein the received requested requested entertainment content item of entertainment content requested from the master list is stored in the local memory cache and performed locally in response to the user request upon receipt via the WAN.

56. (Canceled)

57. (Currently Amended) The first network entertainment unit of claim 11, wherein the requested entertainment content item is, upon receipt, placed in a queue to be performed.

58. (Currently Amended) The first network entertainment unit of claim 11, wherein the requested entertainment content item is performed immediately upon receipt.

59. (Currently Amended) The first network entertainment unit of claim 11, further comprising at least one user identification (ID) device selected from a thumbprint recognition device and a facial recognition device.

60. (Currently Amended) The first network entertainment unit of claim 11, further comprising a video unit comprising hardware and software for capturing and processing images.

61-95. (Canceled)

96. (Currently Amended) A first network entertainment unit, comprising:
means for interfacing a local area network (LAN), through which the first network entertainment unit is configured to communicate with a second network entertainment unit in a venue, wherein the first network entertainment unit and the second network entertainment unit are both located in the venue;
means for interfacing a wide area network (WAN), via which the first network entertainment unit is coupled to a remote central resource, wherein the remote central resource stores entertainment content items available to be retrieved by the first network entertainment unit for performance by the first network entertainment unit, and;

means for interfacing with a user, comprising a graphical user interface (GUI) and a user input device, that interacts with a user to allow the user to select one or more entertainment content items;

means for storing[storeing] a number of the entertainment content items and a master list of all of the entertainment content items, including entertainment content items available from a remote central resource; and

means, when a selected entertainment content item is not stored in the local memory of the first network entertainment unit, for

- i) requesting over the LAN interface means the selected entertainment content item;
- ii)[i)] when the selected entertainment content item is not stored in the second network entertainment unit, requesting over the WAN interface means the selected entertainment content item [that is not stored in the local memory from the remote central resource];
- iii)[ii)] receiving the requested entertainment content item via the WAN interface means; and
- iv)[iii)] performing the received entertainment content item by the first network entertainment unit[[;]].